



AWS D1.3 Interpretation

Subject: Low-Hydrogen Electrodes and Arc Spot Welding
Code Edition: D1.3/D1.3M:2008
Code Provision: Clause 1.4 and Table 1.2
AWS Log: D1.3-08-I10

Inquiry:

- (1) When making arc spot welds for decking to AWS D1.1 Group II steels, does AWS D1.3 require the use of low-hydrogen electrodes?
- (2) Upon successful completion of WPS and PQRs, as identified in Clause 4 of AWS D1.3:2008, would E7010-P1 electrodes be an acceptable filler metal for arc spot welding ASTM A 653 sheet steel to Group II structural steel?

Response:

- (1) No, see Table 1.2, Note 1.
- (2) Yes, see AWS D1.3:2008, Table 1.2, Note a(1).

AWS standards are prepared by AWS technical committees. Because many AWS standards are written in the form of codes or specification, they cannot present background material or discuss the committee's intent.

The nature of inquiries directed to the American Welding Society and their technical committees have indicated that there are some requirements in AWS standards that are either difficult to understand or not sufficiently specific.

It should be recognized that the fundamental premise of AWS standards are to provide general stipulations applicable to any situation and to leave sufficient latitude for the exercise of engineering judgment. Another point to be recognized is that AWS standards represent the collective experience of AWS technical committees; and, while some provisions may seem overly conservative, they have been based on sound engineering practice.